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The purpose of this Amendment is to answer more questions received from potential offerors. The questions and answers are as follows:

1) Question: For Task 7 Section 3.7.3 the emphasis is on gel materials, powders and colloids. Can nanomaterials be considered?

Answer: Yes, nanomaterials will be considered in Sections 3.7.1, i.e., reference to nanophase materials such as aerogels, etc.

2) Question: For Task 7, where does the emphasis of the project lie mostly: on material synthesis and characterization or device development? Can this be quantified?

Answer: The present emphasis is on the synthesis and characterization of materials, but increasing emphasis will be placed on devices. Quantitatively, the present emphasis is approximately 67:33; future emphasis may be 50:50.

3) Question: This question is also related to Task 7. Should the tasks in the proposal be broken down into five phases corresponding to the possible five years of the duration of the project, or could they all be put together?

Answer: A formal five-year plan is not absolutely necessary, but the offer should at least indicate a timeline or sequence.

4) Question: Task 7 seems to be broad and comprehensive. Does lack of expertise in one of the many areas mentioned disqualify an offer?

Answer: No, the lack of expertise in any one area does not automatically disqualify an offer.

5) Question: In Amendment 0001 posted on 12/12/2002, it is mentioned in answer to Question #5 "...the NRL working on this task does conduct basic research on materials for energy storage and conversion..." Would you kindly site any reference to published material from the group?

Answer: See for example, R.M. Stroud et al., *Microscopy and Microanalysis* 8, 50 (2002); M. L. Anderson et al. *Nano Letters* 2, 235 (2002); J.J. Pietron et al. *Nano Letters* 2, 545 (2002); and references therein.

6) Question: Where will Task No. 3 be performed?

Answer: The majority of Task 3 will be conducted on-site at NRL as indicated in Section 3.3.4. Other work will be performed on-site at NIST.

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged.